CLAIMS

I Claim:

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1. A document management system comprising:

a document reading means for reading a document having textual descriptions and at least a drawing consisted of graphic elements each with an associated alpha-numeral designation, wherein said document reading means is

10　further provided for converting said document to a plurality of processor-recognized elements;

a search and link means for searching said processor-recognized elements and linking each of said graphic

15　elements with at least one associated segment of textual description; and

a display means for displaying said drawing with each of said graphic elements displayed immediately next to said

20　associated segment of textual description.

2. The document management system of claim 1 wherein:

said search and link means for searching and linking said

25　associated segment of textual description for each of said graphic element further includes a document-location-finder means for locating a column number, a page number, and a line-range number for said associated segment of textual description; and

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said display means is further provided for displaying said column number, said page number, and said line-range number for said segment of textual description for each of said graphic elements.

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3.   The document management system of claim 1 further comprising:

5   a user interface provided for allowing a user to input a naming-term to invoke said search and link means for searching and linking said naming-term to an associated segment of textual description and for displaying a report of finding said associated segment of textual description.

10   4.   The document management system of claim 1 further comprising:

a user interface provided for allowing a user to input a user-selected naming-term to invoke said search and link means for searching and linking said naming-term to an associated
15   segment of textual description for said user-selected naming-term; and

said display means is further provided for displaying a drawing having a graphic element linked with said
20   associated segment of textual description for said user-selected naming-term when said associated segment of textual description for said user-selected naming-terms is found.

25   5.   The document management system of claim 2 further comprising:

a user interface provided for allowing a user to input a naming-term to invoke said search and link means for searching and linking said naming-term to an associated
30   segment of textual description and for displaying a report of finding said associated segment of textual description and said column number, said page number, and said line-range number for said associated segment of textual description.

6.   The document management system of claim 2 further comprising:

a user interface provided for allowing a user to input a user-selected naming-term to invoke said search and link means for searching and linking said naming-term to an associated segment of textual description for said user-selected naming-term; and

said display means is further provided for displaying a drawing having a graphic element linked with said associated segment of textual description and said column number, said page number, and said line-range number for said associated segment of textual description for said user-selected naming-term when said associated segment of textual description for said user-selected naming-terms is found.

7.   A method of document management comprising:

a) employing a document reading means for reading a document having textual descriptions and at least a drawing consisted of graphic elements each with an associated alpha-numeral designation;

b) converting said document to a plurality of processor-recognized elements

c) employing a search and link means for searching said processor-recognized elements and linking each of said graphic elements with at least one associated segment of textual description; and

d) employing a display means for displaying said drawing with each of said graphic elements displayed together with said associated segment of textual description.

8.   The method of document management of claim 1 wherein:

said step c) of employing said search and link means for searching and linking said associated segment of textual description for each of said graphic element further includes a step of employing a document-location-finder means for locating a column number, a page number, and a line-range number for said associated segment of textual description; and

said step d) of employing said display means for displaying said associated segment of textual descriptions with said graphic elements further displaying said column number, said page number, and said line-range number for said segment of textual description for each of said graphic elements.

9.   The method of document management of claim 1 further comprising:

e) employing a user interface for allowing a user to input a naming-term to invoke said search and link means for searching and linking said naming-term to an associated segment of textual description and for displaying a report of finding said associated segment of textual description.

10.   The method of document management of claim 1 further comprising:

e') employing a user interface for allowing a user to input a user-selected naming-term to invoke said search and link means for searching-and-linking-said naming-term to an associated segment of textual description for said user-selected naming-term; and

f) employing said display means for displaying a drawing having a graphic element linked with said associated segment of textual description for said user-selected naming-term when said associated segment of textual description for said user-selected naming-terms is found.

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11.   The method of document management of claim 7 further comprising:

e″) employing a user interface for allowing a user to input a naming-term to invoke said search and link means for searching and linking said naming-term to an associated segment of textual description and for displaying a report of finding said associated segment of textual description and said column number, said page number, and said line-range number for said associated segment of textual description.

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12.   The method of document management of claim 7 further comprising:

e‴) employing a user interface for allowing a user to input a user-selected naming-term to invoke said search and link means for searching and linking said naming-term to an associated segment of textual description for said user-selected naming-term; and

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f) employing said display means for displaying a drawing having a graphic element linked with said associated segment of textual description and said column number, said page number, and said line-range number for said associated segment of textual description for said user-selected naming-term when said associated segment of textual-description for said user-selected naming-terms is found.

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13.   A document management system for reading a document having textual descriptions and at least a drawing consisted of graphic elements, comprising:

5   a display means for displaying said drawing with each of said graphic elements displayed together with an associated segment of textual description as portion of said textual descriptions.

10   14.   The document management system of claim 13 wherein:

said display means is further provided for displaying for each of said graphic elements a column number, a page number, and a line-range number along with said segment

15   of textual description located in said document.

16.   The document management system of claim 13 further comprising:

20   a user interface provided for allowing a user to input a naming-term to invoke said document management system for searching and linking said naming-term to an associated segment of textual description and for displaying on said display means a status report of finding said associated

25   segment of textual description.

16.   The document management system of claim 13 further comprising:

a user interface provided for allowing a user to input a user-

30   selected naming-term to invoke said document management system for searching and linking said naming-term to an associated segment of textual description for said user-selected naming-term; and

said display means is further provided for displaying a drawing having a graphic element linked with said associated segment of textual description for said user-selected naming-term when said associated segment of textual description for said user-selected naming-terms is found.

17.   The document management system of claim 14 further comprising:

a user interface provided for allowing a user to input a naming-term to invoke said document management system for searching and linking said naming-term to an associated segment of textual description and for displaying a status report of finding said associated segment of textual description and said column number, said page number, and said line-range number for said associated segment of textual description.

18.   The document management system of claim 14 further comprising:

a user interface provided for allowing a user to input a user-selected naming-term to invoke said document management system for searching and linking said naming-term to an associated segment of textual description for said user-selected naming-term; and

said display means is further provided for displaying a drawing having a graphic element linked with said associated segment of textual description and said column number, said page number, and said line-range number for said associated segment of textual description for said user-selected naming-term when said associated segment of textual description for said user-selected naming-terms is found.

19. A method for reading and managing a document having textual descriptions and at least a drawing consisted of graphic elements, comprising:

5   employing a display means for displaying said drawing with each of said graphic elements together with an associated segment of textual description as portion of said textual descriptions.

10   20. The method of reading and managing said document of claim 19 wherein:

said step of displaying said drawing with each of said graphic elements together with an associated segment of
15   textual description further includes a step of displaying for each of said graphic elements a column number, a page number, and a line-range number along with said segment of textual description located in said document.

20   21. The method of reading and managing said document of claim 19 further comprising:

employing a user interface for allowing a user to input a naming-term to invoke a document management system for
25   searching and linking said naming-term to an associated segment of textual description and for displaying on said display means a status report of finding said associated segment of textual description.

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